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ARROWHEAD  
LAKES DENTISTRY 

## Arrowhead Lakes Dentistry Newsletter

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[Re-Grow Your Missing Tooth](#)

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June 2010

Dental science progresses at such a rapid rate. We are truly amazed at the advances we are witnessing. With [dental implants](#), a tooth that was once missing can be replaced and restored by use of a Titanium screw and porcelain crown. This service is available now in our office.

But the ideal replacement would be your own tooth -- stimulating your own cells to regrow your own tooth. Science fiction you might ask? It is closer than you might think. The following is a press release from Columbia University Medical Center written by Denise Ngo:

Press Release from Columbia University Medical Center

*The loss of a tooth is a minor deformity and a major pain. Although dental implants are available, the healing process can take months on end, and implants that fail to align with the ever-growing jawbone tend to fall out. If only adult teeth could be regenerated, right?*

*According to a study published in the latest Journal of Dental Research, a new tissue regeneration technique may allow people to simply regrow a new set of pearly whites.*

*Dr. Jeremy Mao, the Edward V. Zegarelli Professor of Dental Medicine at Columbia University Medical Center, has unveiled a growth factor-infused, three-dimensional scaffold with the potential to regenerate an anatomically correct tooth in just nine weeks from implantation. By using a procedure developed in the university's Tissue Engineering and Regenerative Medicine Laboratory, Dr. Mao can direct the body's own stem cells toward the scaffold, which is made of natural materials. Once the stem cells have colonized the scaffold, a tooth can grow in the socket and then merge with the surrounding tissue.*

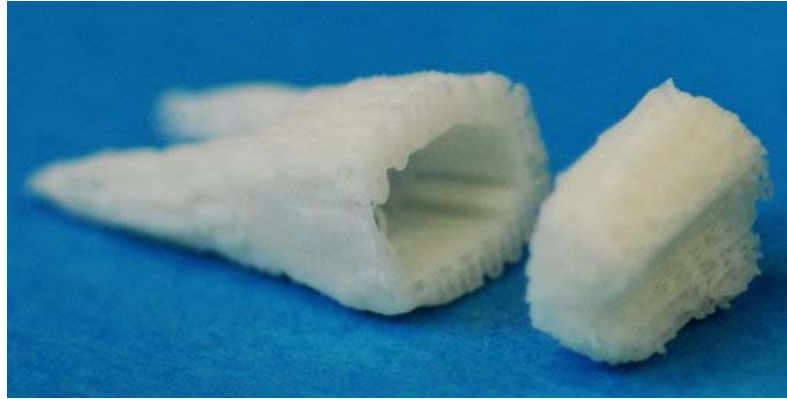
*Dr. Mao's technique not only eliminates the need to grow teeth in a Petri dish, but it is the first to achieve regeneration of anatomically correct teeth by using the body's own resources.*

*Factor in the faster recovery time and the comparatively natural process of regrowth (as opposed to implantation), and you have a massively appealing dental treatment.*

*Columbia University has already filed patent applications in*

*regard to the technology and is seeking associates to aid in its commercialization. In the meantime, Dr. Mao is considering the best approach for applying his technique to cost-effective clinical therapies.*

#### Scaffold Example



Human molar scaffolding Dr. Jeremy Mao has unveiled a technique that directs the body's stem cells into a scaffolding that will aid in the regeneration of a new tooth. *Columbia University Medical Center*

This remarkable advance is not quite available now. Arrowhead Lakes Dentistry strives to be on the cutting edge of innovation, we will let you know when. In the mean time, we have various options available to replace missing teeth. For further information, please visit our [website](#) or give our office a call at 623-362-9616. We would love to answer any questions.

We wish you good health,

**Sincerely,**

Ronald Shelley DMD  
Arrowhead Lakes Dentistry PC

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